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12 *Attorneys for Plaintiffs.*

13 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
14 **FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**
15 **PHOENIX DIVISION**

16 William Price Tedards, Jr.; Monica Wnuk;
Barry Hess; Lawrence Lilien, and Ross
17 Trumble;

18 Plaintiffs,

19 v.

20 Doug Ducey, Governor of Arizona, in his
official capacity, and Jon Kyl, Senator of
21 Arizona, in his official capacity,

22 Defendants.

No.

COMPLAINT

Introduction

1. The plaintiff voters seek an order directing the defendant Governor to issue a writ of election as required by the Seventeenth Amendment to fill the current vacancy in Arizona's representation in the Senate. When a vacancy happens, the Seventeenth Amendment provides:

"When vacancies happen in the representation of any State in the Senate, the executive authority of such State *shall* issue writs of election to fill such vacancies, *Provided*, That the Legislature of any State *may* empower the executive thereto make temporary appointments until the people fill the vacancies by election as the legislature may direct."
(Emphasis supplied.)

2. On August 25, 2018, Senator John McCain's death created a vacancy in Arizona's representation in the Senate. Despite the express duty imposed by the Seventeenth Amendment, the defendant Governor has failed to issue a writ of election. Instead pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-222, he has appointed defendant Kyl or his successor to represent plaintiffs and other voters until the general election in November 2020, long after the people of the State could have filled the vacancy in an orderly election.

3. Under the proviso to the second paragraph of the Seventeenth Amendment and under Article I, section 4 of the Constitution (Elections Clause), the state legislature has no authority to mandate that a temporary appointee shall serve in lieu of or in preference to a Senator directly elected by the people, beyond any period necessary to hold an orderly election. The state legislature may not substitute its own choice or the

1 Governor's choice for a choice made by the people of the State. Furthermore, under
2 A.R.S. § 16-222, under other circumstances, it is well established that an orderly schedule
3 for election of a Senator can ordinarily take place within six months.

4 4. Accordingly, plaintiffs seek an order directing the Governor immediately to
5 issue a writ of election to fill the vacancy in the State's representation as soon as
6 practicable or in any case not later than six months from the issuance of the writ.

7 **Parties**

8 5. Plaintiffs William Price Tedards, Jr., Monica Wnuk, Barry Hess, and
9 Lawrence Lilien are residents of Arizona.

10 6. Defendant Governor Ducey is the Governor of Arizona and is sued here in
11 his official capacity.

12 7. Defendant Jon Kyl is currently serving in the United States Senate to fill
13 the vacancy created by the death of Senator John McCain and is sued here as an
14 indispensable party defendant and in his official capacity.

15 **Jurisdiction and Venue**

16 8. Plaintiffs invoke the jurisdiction of this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1343
17 and 42 U.S.C. § 1983, and under the federal question jurisdiction of this Court.

18 **Facts**

19 9. Plaintiffs all are registered voters.

20 10. Plaintiff Tedards is registered as an Independent.

21 11. Plaintiff Wnuk is registered as a Democrat.

22 12. Plaintiff Hess is registered as a Libertarian.

1 13. Plaintiff Lilien is registered as a Democrat.

2 14. Plaintiff Trumble is registered as a Republican.

3 15. In the general election of 2016, John McCain was elected to a six-year term
4 that expires on January 3, 2023.

5 16. On August 25, 2018 Senator McCain died after a long illness, and a
6 vacancy arose in the state's representation in the Senate.

7 17. In the case of a vacancy, the Seventeenth Amendment provides as follows:

8 "When vacancies happen in the representation of any State in the
9 Senate, the executive authority of such State shall issue writs of
10 election to fill such vacancies, Provided, That the Legislature of any
11 State may empower the executive thereto make temporary
appointments until the people fill the vacancies by election as the
legislature may direct."

12 18. On September 5, 2018 pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-222, the defendant
13 Governor appointed Jon Kyle and any successor to serve on a "temporary" basis in the
14 United States Senate.

15 19. Under A.R.S. § 16-222, Kyl or any successor named by the defendant
16 Governor shall serve until the general election to be held in November 2020, over two
17 years after his temporary appointment.

18 20. Under A.R.S. § 16-222, there is no provision for a special election to fill a
19 Senate vacancy except at the next general election, however far off that may be.

20 21. Under A.R.S. § 16-222, and under other provisions of Arizona law, it is
21 otherwise the case that an election for a United States Senator can take place within six
22 months.
23

1 legislature no more authority than it has under U.S. Const. Article I, section 4 (Elections
2 Clause).

3 27. Under the Elections Clause, and equally under such proviso, the state
4 legislature may issue only procedural regulations as to Time, Place and Manner, as
5 necessary to facilitate the right of the people to fill the vacancy pursuant to a writ of
6 election.

7 28. Under the Elections Clause, and equally under such proviso, the state
8 legislature has no authority to interfere with the right of plaintiffs and other citizens to
9 choose their own Senator, and no authority to prefer a Senator appointed by the Governor
10 beyond the period that the people of the State could have filled the vacancy by an orderly
11 election.

12 29. Accordingly, A.R.S. § 16-222 is unconstitutional under the Seventeenth
13 Amendment and the Elections Clause because it mandates that the Governor keep in
14 office a temporary appointee beyond the period that the people could choose a
15 replacement and for such reason is an unlawful interposition between the people and the
16 National Government.

17
18 **COUNT II**

19 **Section 1983: Violation of Privileges and Immunities Clause**

20 30. By the acts set forth above, and in violation of 42 U.S.C. § 1983, the
21 defendant Governor has deprived the plaintiffs of their rights as federal citizens under the
22 Privileges and Immunities Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment
23

COUNT III

Section 1983: Violation of First Amendment

31. By the acts set forth above, and in violation of 42 U.S.C. § 1983, the defendant Governor has deprived the plaintiffs of their rights under the First Amendment

COUNT IV

Section 1983: Violation of Equal Protection Clause

32. By the acts set forth above, and in violation of 42 U.S.C. § 1983, the defendant Governor has deprived the plaintiffs of their rights under the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

WHEREFORE plaintiffs pray this Court to

- A. Order the defendant Governor immediately to issue a writ of election for an election by the people of the State to fill the vacancy created by the death of Senator McCain;
- B. Order the defendant Governor to hold such election as soon as practicable and no later than six months from the date such writ is issued;
- C. Declare that A.R.S. § 16-222 is unconstitutional in relevant part for the reasons set forth above in that A.R.S. § 16-222 fails to allow for the Governor to issue a writ or otherwise perform his constitutional duty under the Seventeenth Amendment;
- D. Declare that A.R.S. § 16-222 is unconstitutional under the Seventeenth Amendment and the Elections Clause for the reasons set forth above in that it requires a temporary appointee to serve in the Senate beyond the period that the people of Arizona could fill the vacancy by election;

1 E. Declare that A.R.S. § 16-222 for the reasons set forth above is an unlawful
2 interposition between the people of the State and the National Government and
3 that in enforcing A.R.S. § 16-222 and in violation of 42 U.S.C. §1983, the
4 defendant Governor is depriving or will deprive the plaintiffs and other citizens
5 of this State of their rights under the Seventeenth Amendment, the First
6 Amendment, and the Privileges and Immunities Clause and the Equal
7 Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment, in violation of 42 U.S.C.
8 §1983;

9 F. Grant such other relief as may be necessary or appropriate to hold such an
10 election in an orderly manner and pursuant to state law where not otherwise in
11 conflict with plaintiffs' constitutional rights;

12 G. Retain jurisdiction of this matter until an election to fill the vacancy is held and
13 the outcome of such election is certified;

14 H. Grant plaintiffs their legal fees and costs pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1988.

15 Dated: November 28, 2018

Respectfully Submitted,

17 By: /s/ Michael Kielsky
18 One of Plaintiffs' Attorneys

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

Civil Cover Sheet

This automated JS-44 conforms generally to the manual JS-44 approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974. The data is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. The information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law. This form is authorized for use only in the District of Arizona.

The completed cover sheet must be printed directly to PDF and filed as an attachment to the Complaint or Notice of Removal.

William Price Tedards Jr.; Monica
Plaintiff(s): Wnuk ; Barry Hess ; Lawrence Lilien ;
Ross Trumble

Doug Ducey, Governor of Arizona,
Defendant(s): in his official capacity ; Jon Kyl,
Senator of Arizona, in his official
capacity

County of Residence: Maricopa

County of Residence: Maricopa

County Where Claim For Relief Arose: Maricopa

Plaintiff's Atty(s):

Defendant's Atty(s):

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; Lawrence Lilien ; Ross Trumble)

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II. Basis of Jurisdiction: **3. Federal Question (U.S. not a party)**

III. Citizenship of Principal Parties (Diversity Cases Only)

Plaintiff: - N/A
Defendant: - N/A

IV. Origin : **1. Original Proceeding**

V. Nature of Suit: **440 Other Civil Rights**

VI. Cause of Action: **42 U.S.C. Section 1983 (Seventeenth Amendment)**

VII. Requested in Complaint

Class Action: **No**
Dollar Demand:
Jury Demand: **No**

VIII. This case is not related to another case.

Signature: /s/Michael Kielsky

Date: 11/28/2018

If any of this information is incorrect, please go back to the Civil Cover Sheet Input form using the *Back* button in your browser and change it. Once correct, save this form as a PDF and include it as an attachment to your case opening documents.

Revised: 01/2014